THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had issued a notification for grouping of Scheduled Castes into group A, B, C & D. But the Andhra pradesh High Court has held that this order of Andhra Pradesh Government was ultravirus of article 341 of the Constitution and void. Andhra Pradesh Government had filed an appeal in the Supreme Court against this. However on the appointed day of hearing of the Appeal on 10.2.1998 and 11.2.1998 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Government of Andhra Pradesh withdrew its appeal.

(c) The Central Government is not aware of any such bid.

Central Schemes for the tribal population of Kerala

2239. SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total tribal population of the State of Kerala; district-wise;

(b) the amount spent under the Central schemes during the last three years on welfare measures like housing, education and health;

(c) the number of houses, health and education centres built-up for tribals;

(d) the present level of their standard of living vis-a-vis the general standard in the State; and

(c) what steps arc proposed to bring parity in the standard of living?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Relevant information is at Statement-I. *(See* below)

(b) and (c) Relevant information is at Statement-II. (See below)

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment being the nodal Ministry for tribal development fixes targets and monitors the achievements under 11(b) of the 20-point programme. In order to improve the standard of living of the tribal families, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment as well as other concerned Ministry/Departments provide fund under the central sector and centrally sponsored scheme for .their income generating and infrastructural development schemes.

Statement-I

Statement showing District wise S.T. Population in the State of Kerala as per 1991 Census.

S.N.	State & District	General Sch. Tribe Females	General Sch. Tribe Males	Total Sch. Tribe Population
	Kerala	160155	160812	320967
1.	Kasaragod	14442	14841	29283
2.	Kannur	9076	9167	18243
3.	Wayanad	57583	57386	114969
4.	Kozhikode	2753	2654	5407
5.	Mallappuram	5342	5213	10555
6.	Palakkad	17538	17927	35465

S.N.	State & District	General Sch. Tribe Females	General Sch. Tribe Males Tribe	Total Sch. Population
7.	Thrissur	2061	1990	4051
8.	Ernakulam	2390	2551	4941
9.	Idukki	24757	25512	50269
10.	Kottayam	9094	8902	17996
11.	Alappuzha	1394	1407	2801
12.	Pathanamthitta	3463	3459	6922
13.	Kollam	1941	1943	3884
14.	Thiruvananthapuram	8321	7860	16181

Statement-II

Name or Scheme & Sector Lakhs of Rs)	Expenditure for the last Three		Years (in	No. of Centers/Units
	1995-%	1996-97	1997-98	
EDUCATION: (Schools & Hostels) (i) Grant in Aid to Voluntary Organisation working for the Welfare of the Scheduled Tribes.	14.97	15.73	14.39	4
(ii) Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for the ST Girl Child	2.75			1
(iii) Centrally Sponsored Scheme: Hostels	—	34.70	—	23
HEALTH: (Mobile Medicare Unit) (iv) Grant in Aid to Voluntary Organisation working for the Welfare of the Scheduled Tribes	3.59	3.17	0.83	2